

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 26 October 1954

SUBJECT Shortages of Chemicals

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 25X1

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

25X1

1. There is a decided shortage of oil paints and oil lacquers in East Germany at the present time due to low imports of linseed oil needed for the production of these paints and lacquers. The oil paints and oil lacquers that are being produced now are channeled to the retail outlets of the HO organization so that private individuals can buy them at the marked-up HO prices.
2. House painters, constructors, builders and so forth who used to buy paint for their professional work through wholesalers at lower than HO prices now have to refer more and more to the HO stores to obtain oil paints and lacquers needed for all HO store repaint jobs.
3. ~~Because of the shortage of linseed oil, 1,660,000 tons of the 1954 planned production of oil paints and lacquers is being switched into white base, nutcracker base, and other types of paint and lacquer. This switch will be completed by the end of the year.~~
4. A shortage of acetates, such as butyl acetates, ethyl acetates, and butanol is also beginning to become noticeable. Planned materials for these items or these chemicals themselves will be in short supply for the necessary funds have not been made available.

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